

Application No. : 09/975,142
Filed : October 10, 2001

REMARKS

Claims 1-59 were pending in the application. By this paper, Applicant has cancelled Claims 28-31, 46-57 and 59 without prejudice, consistent with Applicant's election of the Group 5 I invention. Claims 4-6, 8, 20, 26 and 38 have been amended. Hence, Claims 1-27, 32-45 and 48 are presented for examination herein.

Restriction Election

Per teleconference with the Examiner on December 9, 2004, Applicant has herein 10 interpreted the Group I invention to include Claims 21-27, which were not identified in the restriction requirement.

Amendments

By this paper, Applicant has amended Claims 4-6, 8, 20, 26 and 38 to alter various of 15 their dependencies, and to correct an editorial defect on Claim 20. Applicant submits that these amendments introduce no new matter. The additions to Claim 20 are supported at, *inter alia*, page 9, lines 14-18 of the specification as filed.

Other Remarks

20 Applicant hereby specifically reserves the right to prosecute claims of different or broader scope in a continuation or divisional application.

Applicant notes that any cancellations or additions made herein are made solely for the purposes of more clearly and particularly describing and claiming the invention and responding to the aforementioned restriction election, and not for purposes of overcoming art or for 25 patentability. The Examiner should infer no (i) adoption of a position with respect to patentability, (ii) change in the Applicant's position with respect to any claim or subject matter of the invention, or (iii) acquiescence in any way to any position taken by the Examiner, based on such cancellations or additions.

Furthermore, any remarks made with respect to a given claim or claims are limited solely 30 to such claim or claims.

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments which may be resolved over the telephone, he is requested to call the undersigned at (858) 675-1670.

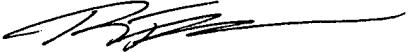
Respectfully submitted,

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GAZDZINSKI & ASSOCIATES

Dated: December 10, 2004

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